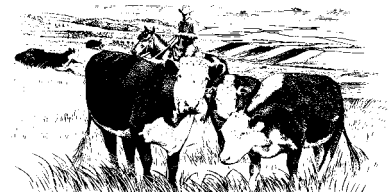


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NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES

3:00 P.M. EDT

Aug. 20	Cattle on Feed	Sept. 17	Cattle on Feed
20	Cold Storage	20	Cold Storage
20	Livestock Slaughter	24	Livestock Slaughter
		24	Hogs & Pigs

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 375 thousand head on July 1, 1999, 1 percent above last month, but 4 percent below July 1998. During June, placements of 60.0 thousand head remained the same as the previous year. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were 25 percent above June 1998. Other disappearance totaled 5.00 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 4 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.56 million head on July 1, 1999. The inventory was 4 percent above July 1, 1998 and 7 percent above July 1, 1997. The inventory included 5.73 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.78 million head, up 3 percent from 1998.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.78 million, 14 percent above 1998 and 24 percent above 1997. Net placements were 1.72 million. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600

pounds were 295 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 372 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 629 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 488 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 2.14 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 1997. Other disappearance totaled 63.0 thousand during June, 12 percent below 1998, but 5 percent above 1997.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 4 PERCENT IN THE HISTORIC SEVEN-STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.17 million on July 1, 1999, up 4 percent from the previous year and 6 percent above July 1, 1997. The inventory included 4.84 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 59 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.30 million head, up 3 percent from 1998.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.51 million, 15 percent above 1998 and 23 percent above 1997. Marketings during June totaled 1.83 million, 6 percent above 1998 and 5 percent above 1997. Other disappearance during June was 44.0 thousand head, 14 percent below 1998, but the same as 1997.

CATTLE AND CALVES NUMBER ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed June 1 1/			Placed During June		Marketed During June	
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	214	207	97	23	20	32	26
California	375	370	99	60	60	40	50
Colorado	980	1,090	111	140	160	230	225
Iowa	290	330	114	21	45	45	64
Kansas	1,990	2,010	101	330	400	440	450
Nebraska	1,800	2,000	111	240	300	430	500
Texas	2,640	2,530	96	500	520	510	510
Seven-State Total	8,289	8,537	103	1,314	1,505	1,727	1,825
State	Other Disappearance During June 2/		Number on Feed July 1			1999/1998	
	1998	1999	1998	1999			
	Thousand Head						Percent
Arizona	5		3	200	198	99	
California	5		5	390	375	96	
Colorado	10		5	880	1,020	116	
Iowa	1		1	265	310	117	
Kansas	10		10	1,870	1,950	104	
Nebraska	10		10	1,600	1,790	112	
Texas	10		10	2,620	2,530	97	
Seven-State Total	51		44	7,825	8,173	104	

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

CATTLE ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S.

Estimate	California			United States		
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1999/1998
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
On Feed July 1	390	375	96	9,161	9,555	104
Placed (June)	60	60	100	1,564	1,784	114
Marketed (June)	40	50	125	2,034	2,143	105
Other Disappearance (June) ^{1/}	5	5	100	72	63	88
Kinds On Feed July 1						
Steers and Steer Calves	335	345	103	5,445	5,728	105
Heifers and Heifer Calves	55	30	55	3,679	3,783	103
Cows and Bulls	0	0	0	37	44	119

^{1/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

**JULY 1, 1999
ALL SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY TOTALS 9.00 MILLION HEAD
1999 LAMB CROP TOTALS 4.75 MILLION HEAD**

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 1999 totaled 9.00 million head, 4 percent below July 1, 1998. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 5.35 million head on July 1, 1999, 4 percent below July 1998. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.65 million head, were 5 percent below last July.

Of the July 1, 1999 breeding herd, 4.38 million head were ewes one year old and older, 215 thousand head were rams one year old and older, and 755 thousand head were replacement lambs (including newborn lambs).

The 1999 U.S. lamb crop is expected to total 4.75 million head, down 2 percent from the 1998 lamb crop of 4.87 million head. Lambs born during January through June 1999 totaled 4.21 million head or 89 percent of the yearly total. An additional 540 thousand head are expected to be born during the period July through December 1999.

U.S. MARKET LAMBS BY WEIGHT GROUPS

Weight Group	July 1998	July 1999
	Thousand Head	
Under 65 Lbs.	2,330	2,120
65-84 Lbs.	720	730
85-105 Lbs.	420	465
Over 105 Lbs.	270	260
TOTAL	3,740	3,575

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		June 1998	May 1999	June 15, 1999	June 1998	May 1999	June 15, 1999
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled ^{2/}	Ton	100.00	98.00	84.00	91.80	91.60	81.70
Alfalfa, Baled ^{2/}	Ton	102.00	102.00	86.00	96.50	95.70	85.00
Hogs ^{2/ 3/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	42.40	36.40	33.80
Cows ^{2/}	Cwt.	34.50	36.20	35.50	36.10	36.40	36.10
Steers and Heifers ^{2/}	Cwt.	62.00	62.50	64.50	64.50	65.20	66.80
Calves ^{2/}	Cwt.	70.00	74.00	75.50	81.70	87.60	88.00
Sheep	Cwt.	34.00	29.00	24.50	30.20	31.50	---
Lambs ^{2/}	Cwt.	92.00	83.00	81.00	88.90	82.80	---
Milk Cows ^{4/}	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Wholesale ^{2/}	Cwt.	13.94	12.40	13.20	14.10	12.80	13.20

^{1/} The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{2/} Previous month revised to monthly average.

^{3/} Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.

^{4/} Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July, and October.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during June 1999 totaled 88.7 million pounds (dressed weight), 4 percent above last month and 3 percent above June 1998. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In June 1999, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,241 pounds; calves, 162 pounds; and hogs, 211 pounds.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FOR JUNE

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.94 billion pounds in June. This was up 6 percent from the 3.73 billion pounds produced in June 1998 and up 4 percent from the previous record high for June set in 1995.

June 1998 and 1999 both contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.32 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year and 2 percent higher than the previous record high for June set in 1995. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.21 million head, up 3 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year to 1,195 pounds.

Veal production totaled 19.0 million pounds, 6 percent below the previous record low for June set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 105 thousand head, down 11 percent from June 1998. The average live weight, at 297 pounds, was 14 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.58 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year and 8 percent higher than the previous record high for June set in 1995. Hog kill totaled 8.32 million head, 8 percent above 1998. The average live weight, at 259 pounds, was 4 pounds above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was 11 percent below the previous year and 6 percent below the previous record low for June set in 1996. Sheep slaughter totaled 270 thousand head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 4 pounds from June a year ago.

January-June red meat production was 22.8 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year; veal, down 14 percent; pork, up 4 percent; lamb and mutton, down 7 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, JUNE 1998-99 a/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousand Head	Thousand Head	Thousand Pounds	Thousand Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
CATTLE						
California	86.2	86.0	107,509	106,774	1,248	1,241
U.S. Total	3,108.1	3,207.4	3,721,462	3,833,039	1,197	1,195
CALVES						
California	14.6	12.5	1,741	2,022	119	162
U.S. Total	117.0	104.7	33,143	31,069	283	297
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	294.5	269.7	39,416	35,107	134	130
HOGS						
California	180.4	190.2	37,574	40,151	208	211
U.S. Total	7,729.5	8,318.9	1,968,838	2,156,622	255	259
RED MEAT						
	June 1998	May 1999 b/	June 1999	June 99 June 98	June 99 May 99	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	86.5	85.4	88.7	103	104	
U.S. Total	3,731.9	3,603.9	3,940.4	106	109	

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised total for May 1999

JULY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY DOWN 1 PERCENT

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 1999 totaled 106.8 million head. This was 1 percent below the 107.7 million on July 1, 1998 and 2 percent below the 109.2 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved totaled 43.2 million. This was 1 percent below the 43.6 million on July 1, 1998 and 2 percent below the 44.1 million two years ago.

- Beef cows, at 34.1 million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 1998 and 2 percent below two years ago.
- Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 1998 and 2 percent below two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 1999 and changes from July 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, were as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.6 million, down 1 percent and down 3 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 4.8 million, down 4 percent and down 9 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.7 million, up 3 percent and up 3 percent.
- Other heifers, 8.1 million, no change and down 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.4 million, down 1 percent and down 3 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent and down 9 percent.
- Calves less than 500 pounds, 30.5 million, down slightly and down 1 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 11.4 million, up 4 percent and up 5 percent.

CALF CROP DOWN 1 PERCENT

The 1999 calf crop is expected to be 38.3 million, down 1 percent from 1998 and down 2 percent from 1997. This would be the smallest calf crop since 1952. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 28.2 million, down 1 percent from 1998 and 1997.

CATTLE AND CALVES NUMBER BY CLASS AND CALF CROP, U.S., JULY 1, 1997-99

Class	1997	1998	1999	1999 1998
	Thousand Head			Percent
Cattle and Calves	109,200	107,700	106,800	99
Cows and Heifers				
That Have Calved	44,100	43,600	43,200	99
Beef Cows	34,800	34,400	34,050	99
Milk Cows	9,300	9,200	9,150	99
Heifers 500 Lbs. and Over	17,100	16,700	16,600	99
For Beef Cow				
Replacement	5,300	5,000	4,800	96
For Milk Cow				
Replacement	3,600	3,600	3,700	103
Other Heifers	8,200	8,100	8,100	100
Steers 500 Lbs. and Over	14,800	14,600	14,400	99
Bulls 500 Lbs. and Over	2,300	2,200	2,100	95
Calves Less Than 500 Lbs.	30,900	30,600	30,500	100
Calf Crop	38,961	38,582	38,300	99

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 2.52 billion pounds of milk in June 1999. This was 5 percent below May 1999, but 9 percent above June 1998.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,725 pounds, 100 pounds less than May 1999, but 90 pounds more than a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION

Month	California						Total Milk Receipts <u>1/</u>		United States <u>2/</u>					
	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production				Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousand Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				Thousand Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,402	1,443	1,670	1,690	2,341	2,439	2,340	2,437	7,728	7,704	1,466	1,521	11,327	11,720
Feb.	1,405	1,448	1,480	1,550	2,079	2,244	2,077	2,243	7,716	7,702	1,347	1,403	10,394	10,809
Mar.	1,408	1,452	1,665	1,785	2,344	2,592	2,343	2,600	7,709	7,704	1,515	1,577	11,678	12,147
Apr.	1,410	1,456	1,640	1,770	2,312	2,577	2,311	2,572	7,713	7,712	1,501	1,553	11,579	11,977
May	1,414	1,460	1,720	1,825	2,432	2,665	2,430	2,655	7,719	7,722	1,556	1,610	12,011	12,430
June	1,417	1,464	1,635	1,725	2,317	2,525	2,313		7,718	7,729	1,477	1,525	11,396	11,785
July	1,421		1,625		2,309		2,308		7,709		1,468		11,314	
Aug.	1,426		1,590		2,267		2,266		7,708		1,443		11,124	
Sept.	1,429		1,530		2,186		2,181		7,701		1,386		10,672	
Oct.	1,432		1,650		2,363		2,359		7,695		1,446		11,125	
Nov.	1,436		1,590		2,283		2,282		7,697		1,407		10,829	
Dec.	1,439		1,650		2,374		2,375		7,708		1,489		11,481	

1/ Milk receipts from California's Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on farm usage.

2/ Twenty-state total.